

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
U.S. Appln. No. 10/511,685

REMARKS

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner issues a Restriction Requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to one of the inventions of the following groups:

- Group I - Claims 2-10 and 15-24, drawn to a method for culturing microorganisms; or
Group II - Claim 11-14 and 25-27, drawn to a microorganism growth substrate.

Specifically, the Examiner contends that restriction is proper since the technical feature linking Groups I and II is not patentable over the prior art, i.e., the composition of Group II is known in the art, as evidenced by Bothe et al and Reinhard et al.

Applicants hereby elect the invention of Group II, without traverse, and as a result hereby cancel Claims 2-10 and 15-24 without prejudice to the filing of a Divisional Application on the non-elected claims.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below listed number on any questions which might arise.

Respectfully submitted,

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